The De Mauldes are coming to stay with me. I have such kind letters from them, and so charming an epistle from Hortense, that *I* believe I am turning fool in my old age, and have caught myself two or three times looking in the glass, and giving my man instructions how to dress my hair.

I never experienced greater friendship and cordiality than from Perregaux. He is much abused for having been afraid, and for giving way to the system of terror; but I should like to know if those who abuse him, and who ran away entirely, were not as much afraid *at least.*

I have had the satisfaction of receiving some pleasing letters from prisoners to whom I have rendered service, written *proprio motu* after their arrival. Men are not so ungrateful as you imagine. I suspect ingratitude is often provoked by something in the behaviour of the obliger, which hurts the pride of the obliged, and settles the account.

There are nine English prisoners, whom I have been clothing, confined in the château, in a room belonging to the Queen's

apartments. The municipality here have sent me the keys, and a person to open every room to *monsieur Ucommis-saire.* There are also two hundred Austrian pris-